## THE CLAIMS

## What is claimed:

| 1  | 1. | A machine-implemented method for executing a database statement, the method comprising        |
|----|----|---|
| 2  |    | the steps of:   |
| 3  |    | a database server receiving a request to execute a database statement, wherein the request    |
| 4  |    | specifies the database statement and a tag that does not conform to a database                |
| 5  |    | language;   |
| 6  |    | wherein said tag specifies at least one parameter field and at least one parameter value;     |
| 7  |    | in response to receiving the request, said database server storing the tag;                   |
| 8  |    | said database server executing said database statement, wherein during execution of said      |
| 9  |    | database statement said database server provides access to one or more of the at              |
| 10 |    | least one parameter values through a tag access mechanism provided by said                    |
| 11 |    | database server.  |
|    |    |   |
| 1  | 2. | The method of claim 1, wherein the database statement is written in a language in which       |
| 2  |    | results desired are specified, but no procedures for obtaining the results desired are        |
| 3  |    | specified.  |
| 1  | 3. | The method of claim 1, wherein a priority for executing the database statement is             |
| 2  | ٥. | determined based on the at least one parameter value.   |
| 2  |    | determined based on the at least one parameter value.   |
| 1  | 4. | The method of claim 1, wherein a security level is associated with the at least one parameter |
| 2  |    | such that whether the database is entitled to access a component is based on the at least one |
| 3  |    | parameter.  |

- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one parameter is accessible to a systems administrator.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one parameter is related to user context information.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the tag comprises an indicator of a beginning of the tag,
  and an indicator of an end of the tag.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the at least one parameter value is located between the 2 indicator of the beginning and the indicator of the end of the tag.
- 9. The method of claim 8, wherein each of the at least one parameter fields comprises an indicator of a beginning of the parameter field, followed by the parameter value, which in turn is followed by an indicator of an end of the parameter field.
- 1 10. The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one parameter value can be accessed without
  2 accessing a session space associated with a database window, wherein the database
  3 statement was issued within the session window.
- The method of claims 4, wherein the at least one parameter value can be accessed without accessing a session space associated with a database window, wherein the database statement was issued within the session window.
- The method of claims 5, wherein the at least one parameter value can be accessed without accessing a session space associated with database window, wherein the database statement was issued within the session window.

| 1  | 13. | The method of claims 6, wherein the at least one parameter value can be accessed after a     |
|----|-----|--|
| 2  |     | session window has closed, wherein the database statement was issued within the session      |
| 3  |     | window.  |
| 1  | 14. | A machine-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when         |
| 2  |     | executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform a method    |
| 3  |     | comprising the steps of:   |
| 4  |     | a database server receiving a request to execute a database statement, wherein the request   |
| 5  |     | specifies the database statement and a tag that does not conform to a database               |
| 6  |     | language;  |
| 7  |     | wherein said tag specifies at least one parameter field and at least one parameter value;    |
| 8  |     | in response to receiving the request, said database server storing the tag;                  |
| 9  |     | said database server executing said database statement, wherein during execution of said     |
| 10 |     | database statement said database server provides access to one or more of the at             |
| 11 |     | least one parameter values through a tag access mechanism provided by said                   |
| 12 |     | database server.   |
|    |     |  |
| 1  | 15. | The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the database statement is written in a      |
| 2  |     | language in which results desired are specified, but no procedures for obtaining the results |
| 3  |     | desired are specified.   |
| 1  | 16. | The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein a priority for executing the database       |
| 2  |     | statement is determined based on the at least one parameter value.                           |

- 1 16. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein a security level is associated with the
- 2 at least one parameter such that whether the database is entitled to access a component is based on
- 3 the at least one parameter.
- 1 17. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the at least one parameter is accessible
- 2 to a systems administrator.
- 1 18. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the at least one parameter is related to
- 2 user context information.
- 1 19. The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the tag comprises an indicator of a
- 2 beginning of the tag, and an indicator of an end of the tag.
- 1 20. The machine-readable medium of claim 19, wherein the at least one parameter value is
- 2 located between the indicator of the beginning and the indicator of the end of the tag.
- 1 21. The machine-readable medium of claim 20, wherein each of the at least one parameter
- 2 fields comprises an indicator of a beginning of the parameter field, followed by the parameter
- 3 value, which in turn is followed by an indicator of an end of the parameter field.
- 1 22. The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the at least one parameter value can be
- 2 accessed without accessing a session space associated with a database window, wherein the
- database statement was issued within the session window.
- 1 23. The machine-readable medium of claims 16, wherein the at least one parameter value can
- 2 be accessed without accessing a session space associated with a database window, wherein the
- database statement was issued within the session window.

- 1 24. The machine-readable medium of claims 17, wherein the at least one parameter value can
- 2 be accessed without accessing a session space associated with a database window, wherein the
- 3 database statement was issued within the session window.
- 1 25. The machine-readable medium of claims 18, wherein the at least one parameter value can
- 2 be accessed after a session window has closed, wherein the database statement was issued within
- 3 the session window.